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Safety



SAFETY RULES FOR STORAGE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

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This instruction implements AFI 91-1, *Nuclear Weapons and Systems Surety*. It applies to all weapons in the Air Force inventory not designated for use with combat delivery vehicles. Section A assigns responsibilities and Section B contains the nuclear weapon system safety rules for the weapons. The safety rules in Section B can only be changed or supplemented using procedures in AFI 91-102, *Nuclear Weapon System Safety Studies, Operational Safety Reviews, and Safety Rules*. This instruction does not apply to the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard.

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS

Extends the applicability of the rules and changed the name of the rules to cover the applicability.

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Section A—Authority and Responsibilities

- 1. Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) Direction.** The JCS direct the Chief of Staff, US Air Force, to implement the rules.
- 2. Temporary Limitations.** The Air Force may impose restrictions on application of safety rules.
- 3. Functional Responsibilities:**
 - 3.1. The Commander, Air Force Safety Center, must ensure:
 - Safety rules work, providing maximum safety consistent with operational requirements.

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- Units follow the safety rules.
- 3.2. Using major commands:
- Ensure their units follow the safety rules.
 - Ensure safety standards and procedures agree with the safety rules.
 - Inspect for compliance.
- 3.3. Air Force Materiel Command ensures its manuals, checklists, and technical orders do not conflict with the safety rules.

Section B—Safety Rules

4. Application. Safety rules always apply, even during war. A commander may deviate from a specific rule in an emergency. DoD Directive (DoDD) 3150.2, *Safety Studies and Reviews of Nuclear Weapon Systems*, 8 February 1984, defines an emergency as “an unexpected occurrence or set of unexpected circumstances in which personnel or equipment unavailability, due to accident, natural event or combat may demand immediate action that may require extraordinary measures to protect, handle, service, transport, or employ a nuclear weapon.”

5. Compliance. These rules, weapon system design and security features, operational and administrative controls, and technical procedures ensure the nuclear weapons meet the Nuclear Weapon System Safety Standards in AFI 91-101, *Air Force Nuclear Weapons Surety Program*, and DoDD 3150.2.

6. Troubleshooting and Use of Equipment, Procedures, Checklists, and Modifications. The following items apply to anyone working with or controlling nuclear weapons:

- Do not use nuclear weapons to troubleshoot equipment faults.
- Use only equipment, procedures, and checklists that are consistent with US Air Force-approved publications for any operation directly associated with nuclear weapons.
- Approved publications and modifications must conform to the safety rules in this instruction and the DoD Nuclear Weapon System Safety Standards.

7. Security Criteria. AFI 31-101, Vol I, *The Physical Security Program*, AFI 31-101, Vol II, *The Air Force Nuclear Security Program Standards*, and DoDD C-5210.41-M, *Nuclear Weapon Security Manual* (U), April 1994, apply.

8. Tamper Control and Detection. AFI 91-104, *Nuclear Surety Tamper Control and Detection Programs*, which defines the Two-Person Concept and sealing requirements, applies.

9. Personnel Reliability. AFI 36-2104, *Nuclear Weapons Personnel Reliability Program*, applies.

10. Nuclear Identification. Establish administrative controls and procedures to provide positive means of distinguishing:

- Nuclear bombs and warheads from test and training shapes.
- Warhead shipping and storage containers that contain nuclear warheads from those containers without nuclear warheads.

11. Basic Weapon Configuration:

11.1. Verify nuclear weapons are safe using applicable technical orders.

11.2. Perform alterations according to applicable technical orders.

12. Storage, Maintenance, Testing, and Ground Transportation.

As appropriate for the activity:

- Place nuclear weapons in their basic configurations (paragraph 11).
- Store nuclear weapons in USAF-approved, locked, and secured facilities.

13. Permissive Action Link (PAL) Procedures. Use PAL codes and PAL devices only as directed by appropriate authority.

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